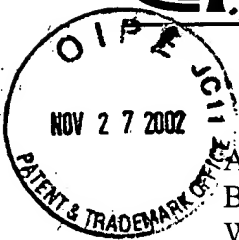


3761



22 November 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box RESPONSE  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: "VACUUM ASSISTED CLOSURE SYSTEM WITH PROVISION FOR  
INTRODUCTION OF AGENT"

Inventor: Johnson, Royce

Serial No.: 09/937,942 Filed: 10 October 2001

Examiner: TRUONG, Linh T. Group Art Unit: 3761

Attorney Docket No.: VAC.483.US

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed herewith, please find the following for filing in the above referenced matter:

1. Transmittal Form (1 sheet);
2. Response to Office Action/Amendment of August 27, 2002 (5 sheets); and
3. Self-addressed itemized postcard to be returned upon receipt.

Applicant believes this Amendment is being timely submitted, and therefore no fee is required. However, in the event any fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account no. 50-0326. A copy this letter is attached for accounting purposes.

Please contact the undersigned at (210) 255-4543 for any reason that would advance the application to issue. Thank you for your assistance.

Yours very truly,

Nadeem G. Bridi

Attorney for the Applicant

Reg. No. 42,361

**Certificate of Mailing**

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail under 37 CFR § 1.8 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RESPONSE, Washington, D.C. 20231

By:

  
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Date of Deposit: 22 November 2002



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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)  
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/937,942	
	Filing Date	10/02/2001	
	First Named Inventor	JOHNSON, Royce	
	Group Art Unit	3761	
	Examiner Name	TRUONG, Linh T.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	8	Attorney Docket Number	VAC.483.US

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	1. Cover letter and copy thereof; and
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	2. Itemized postcard.
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Nadeem G. Bridi
Signature	
Date	22 November 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: 22 November 2002			
Typed or printed name	Nadeem G. Bridi		
Signature		Date	22 November 2002

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.